

What's New: Social Security Number Required for a Driver's License

Michigan has joined all other states in requiring Social Security numbers (SSN) from everyone who applies for a driver's license. This is the result of a federal court ruling requiring Michigan to comply with the federal Welfare Reform Act and collect SSNs so the state's Family Independence Agency can use them as a tool in child support enforcement. Michigan complied with this federal mandate only after proper safeguards were in place to protect the personal privacy of state residents.

All driver's license applicants, including teens, must provide their SSN before a license or temporary instruction permit can be issued or renewed. Federal regulations still require original Commercial Driver License (CDL) applicants to present proof of their SSN. One of the following documents must be presented as proof when applying for a CDL: a Social Security card or receipt, payroll check or check stub, W-2 form, military identification card, Social Security Administration printout, or an out-of-state CDL with an SSN.

A person who has never been issued a SSN must certify to that fact when applying for a driver's license. Individuals who make a false statement regarding their SSN on the application are subject to imprisonment for not less than one year nor more than five years, or a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$5,000, or by both fine and imprisonment. The individual's license or permit will also be suspended.

If you are unable to provide this information, the Secretary of State cannot process your driver's license application.

If you do not have a SSN or need information about obtaining a duplicate card, you should:

- Call the Social Security Administration at (800) 772-1213 (voice); (800) 325-0778 (TTY)
- Visit your local Social Security Administration office; or
- Access the Social Security Administration Web site at www.ssa.gov.